

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ALGIER 01940 051701Z

67

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-13 /090 W

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R 051640Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4980

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

S E C R E T ALGIERS 1940

E.O. 11652: SGDS-2

TAGS: PFOR SS AG MO MR

SUBJECT: BOUMEDIENE AT RABAT SUMMIT

REF: RABAT'S 2471 AND 3705, ALGIERS 1249

1. HAVE FINALLY TAKEN TIME TO SIT DOWN AND LISTEN CAREFULLY TO MOROCCAN TAPE PURPORTED TO BE OF BOUMEDIENE SPEAKING AT 1974 RABAT SUMMIT. AM CONVINCED IT IS GENUINE. ALTHOUGH FIDELITY POOR AND VOICE IS DISTORTED, INFLECTION AND TURN OF PHRASE SOUND VERY MUCH LIKE THE BOUMEDIENE I HAVE LISTENED TO ON MANY OCCASIONS. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SOME CLEVER IMPERSONATOR HAS IMITATED HIM, OR THAT TAPE HAS BEEN TAMPERED WITH, BUT FACT THAT EGYPTIANS CORROBORATE TAPE VERSION MAKES THAT POSSIBILITY SEEM REMOTE. LISTENING TO THE KEY PORTIONS THERE ARE NO APPARENT BREAKS OR CHANGES OF TONE, AND TRAIN OF THOUGHT IS UNINTERRUPTED.

2. I CALLED L'OPINION STORY REPORTED IN RABAT'S 3705 TO ATTENTION MOHAMED ABERKANE, DIRECTOR NORTH AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS AT FOREIGN MINISTRY, ON JULY 15. ABERKANE SAID MOROCCANS HAD TAMPERED WITH RECORDING. HE

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HAS SEEN THE TRANSCRIPT OF REMARKS AND BOUMEDIENE HAD

CLEARLY MENTIONED SELF-DETERMINATION. I SAID IN THAT CASE PERHAPS ALGERIANS WOULD LET US SEE THEIR TRANSCRIPT OR HEAR THEIR TAPE IN ORDER TO CORRECT THE RECORD WHICH THE MOROCCANS WERE ESTABLISHING. ABERKANE SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO ASK ADJALI WHAT HE SAID. HAVE HEARD NOTHING MORE FROM HIM AND DO NOT EXPECT TO. IF ALGERIANS DO INDEED HAVE A TAPE THAT IS DIFFERENT, WE HAVE HEARD OF NO ONE WHO HAS AUDITED IT.

3. MYSTERY OF BOUMEDIENE'S SUBSEQUENT TURNABOUT REMAINS. WE HAVE NO SATISFACTORY EXPLANATION. PARKER

SECRET

NNN

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